

ON HOUSE APPROVAL OF H.R. 3773

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 2008

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my support for the House amendment to the Senate-approved version of H.R. 3773, the FISA Amendments Act of 2008, but also to voice an area of concern I have with the legislation. I want to thank Chairmen REYES and CONYERS and for the immense time and effort they both have put into this legislation, and also thank Speaker PELOSI for her efforts to negotiate with the Senate to work out the differences between the two bills.

As Congress works to reauthorize and improve our foreign intelligence surveillance, it is imperative to remember that the United States has enemies abroad who wish to do us harm. In these delicate negotiations, we must be sure to protect the civil liberties of the American people and keep our Constitution in tact, while at the same time giving our intelligence community all the critical tools necessary to keep us safe. I believe that with an updated bill approved by the House, we can work out our honest differences and come up with a good bill that keeps the American people safe and protects our civil rights.

While the House passed bill is a step in the right direction, I believe certain additional provisions should be included in final compromise legislation. It is critical that any FISA legislation works to encourage compliance with our private sector partners in the ultimate goal of keeping America and her people secure. As such, targeted immunity for telecom carriers that allegedly participated in anti-terrorism surveillance programs may become of vital importance.

I am confident that as Congress moves forward in negotiating sensible and effective FISA legislation, we will continue to work toward the right balance that protects the Constitutional rights of all Americans, while also authorizing the measures necessary to keep the United States safe.

HONORING PAUL CRAWFORD**HON. BILL SHUSTER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 2008

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Paul Crawford, who has been named Historian of the Year by the Bedford County Historical Society. Paul, who is the founder of the Cumberland Valley Township Historical Society in Bedford County, will be honored with this distinguished award at the Bedford County Historical Society's annual history banquet in April.

As founder of the Cumberland Valley Township Historical Society, Paul has dedicated much of his life to researching and preserving the history of his community. He serves as a true leader in the community and the Society, directing many of the projects and events of the organization. Paul is a constant presence in the Cumberland Valley region, active in various community events and projects that support and promote the region.

Paul's role as a historian cannot be denied. He is consistently found pouring over historical documents and photographs, researching, documenting, and cataloging the history of the Cumberland Valley Township so that others can learn and remember the stories of those that came before them. Paul is a great leader in the community, and Bedford County is lucky to have such a dedicated individual working for the benefit of the entire community.

Paul Crawford's dedication to the preservation of his community's history is admirable, and we can hope that others will follow in his footsteps and view our history with the same pride and honor as he has so clearly done.

TRIBUTE TO RITA AND JACK SINDER**HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 2008

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to two dear friends, Rita and Jack Sinder, who are being honored by Valley Beth Shalom's 60th Birthday of the State of Israel Dinner Celebration. They are being recognized for their lifetime of commitment to Israel, the Jewish people, and Valley Beth Shalom (VBS).

In 1967, Rita and Jack made their first trip to Israel just prior to the Six-Day War. The outbreak of hostilities forced their early departure on the eve of the war. The impact of their experience motivated them to mobilize the American Jewish community on Israel's behalf.

Their dedication to Israel, however, began long before the State of Israel was created.

Born in Vienna, Rita was immersed in Judaism as a young child. During WWII, when Hitler invaded Austria, Rita's father was shipped to Poland. He fortunately escaped and her mother managed to get herself and her daughters out of Austria. Rita was sent to London on Kindertransport and was not reunited with her family until the war ended. The determination, positive attitude, tremendous resilience, and adaptability that helped her survive still guide her life today. Rita's family was miraculously reunited in America, settling in Los Angeles where Rita attended Belmont High School and graduated from USC with a degree in Business Administration.

Jack, raised in the Orthodox tradition by his father, a prominent Rabbi in Michigan, earned a degree in Mechanical Engineering from Michigan State. He worked for a machine tool company that supplied parts to the big three automakers. He was asked by an associate to help send machine tools to the Jewish fighters in Israel, and together with his friends, he shipped tools which ultimately helped in the creation of the Israeli aircraft industry and the Israeli Air Force.

Rita and Jack have been an integral force in the Jewish Community, living up to the motto, "Give of yourself first and only then ask others to join you." They have generously contributed their time and resources to VBS, the Jewish Federation, Israel Bonds, AIPAC and many other worthy organizations. They endowed the Midrasha Program at the VBS, where Jack formerly was a member of the Board of Directors and currently serves on the Board of

Trustees and the Steering Committee. Rita has chaired many special events at VBS. She is past president of the San Fernando Valley Women's Division of Israel Bonds and the Golda Meir Club, an active member of AIPAC serving on its National Executive Board, and is past president and member of the Executive Board of the Women's Alliance of Israel. Rita and Jack are founding members of the American Jewish University's Wagner Program, university patrons and also patrons of the Wiesenthal Center.

Rita and Jack work together in their business, Jasin Co., he as a real estate developer and she as a real estate broker and property manager. They are the proud parents of Sherri and Alan and adore their three grandchildren. Rita and Jack's greatest joys are being with family and friends, boating and traveling.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Rita and Jack Sinder who have devoted their lives to working for the survival of the Jewish people and the State of Israel.

NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK**HON. LEONARD L. BOSWELL**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 2008

Mr. BOSWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Public Health Week (NPHW), April 7–13, a week to focus on issues facing the public health and find ways to improve the health of all. This year NPHW focuses on how climate change is affecting the health of Americans and people around the world.

The impact of global climate change on our planet and the role we have played in speeding its progress is becoming increasingly self-evident. The work of groups like the American Public Health Association and committed individuals, such as former Vice President Al Gore, have created a heightened awareness of what is one of the most important issues of the coming century. This heightened state of public awareness has led to calls across the country for a new emphasis on reducing the amount of greenhouse gases that are expelled into the atmosphere by finding new, cleaner sources of energy, reducing our consumption of natural resources, and using energy-efficient products.

In my home State of Iowa we are working hard to find new and innovative ways to reduce the amount of greenhouse gases produced. It gives me great pride to say that a recent study by the American Wind Energy Association found that Iowa ranked first in the Nation in the percentage of wind-generated electricity created in the State, and fourth in total wind electricity generation.

The Iowa Climate Change Advisory Council, ICCAC, created less than a year ago in April 2007, is charged with finding ways for Iowa to combat climate change by becoming more energy efficient and independent. The ICCAC is right now creating plans for the reduction of greenhouse gases statewide with target goals of 50 percent to 90 percent by 2050.

In February of this year Governor Chet Culver signed Executive Order Six, establishing a new "green government" initiative. This initiative calls for improving energy efficiency in three areas, greening new and existing State